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APPROVED FOR PTO 27 MAR 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors: Koetsu SAITO, et al.

Application No.: New PCT National Stage Application

Filed: March 27, 2006

For: ULTRASONIC PROBE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the art listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. Copies of the art cited in the International Search Report (ISR), which issued by the JPO, are made available to the U.S. examiner in the national stage application, pursuant to MPEP 1893.03(g), and therefore copies of such art are not submitted herewith. The art cited in the ISR is listed on the attached PTO-1449 for an indication of consideration by the examiner. Copies of any other references listed on the PTO-1449, besides those cited in the ISR, are submitted herewith. JP '220 corresponds to US '718. JP '498 corresponds to EP '470. JP '694 corresponds to US '906. And JP '221 corresponds to US '175.

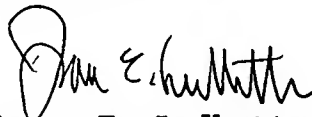
Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the

10/573686
IAP9 Rec'd PCTO 27 MAR 2006

presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106.

Applicants respectfully request that this art be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter
Registration No. 28,732

Date: March 27, 2006

JEL/ejw

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. L8638.06105

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce
(Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark Office**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

L8638.06105

SERIAL NO.

New PCT Nat'l Stage
Application

10/573686

APPLICANT

Koetsu SAITO, et al.

FILING DATE

March 27, 2006

GROUP

Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
/B.G./	5 6 0 2 7 1 8	02/1997	Peszynski			
	5 6 2 9 9 0 6	05/1997	Sudol et al.			
	5 6 2 2 1 7 5	04/1997	Sudol et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
					YES	NO
0 6 3 7 4 7 0	02/1995	EP				
9 1 0 8 2 2 0	04/1997	JP				
7 7 9 4 9 8	03/1995	JP				
2000 1 6 5 9 9 5	06/2000	JP				
1 0 1 2 6 8 8 9	05/1998	JP				
8 2 5 1 6 9 4	09/1996	JP				
9 1 0 8 2 2 1	04/1997	JP				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

PCT International Search Report dated November 22, 2004.

Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of JP Utility Model Application No. 169394/1988(Laid-Open No. 91510/1990), Shimadzu Corp., page 10, lines 6-13, Fig. 3, July 20, 1990.

Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of JP Utility Model Application No. 140880/1988(Laid-Open No. 61312/1990), Aloka Co., Ltd., page 6, line 7 to page 7, line 4, Fig. 1 May 8, 1990.

/Bryan Gordon/

02/11/2008

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.